1	2		3
15.	Maharashtra*		185.92
16.	Manipur*		72.40
17.	Meghalaya*		70.00
18.	Mizoram		91.00
19.	Nagaland		66.00
20.	Orissa*		70.00
21.	Punjab*		96.90
22.	Rajasthan*		73.00
23.	Sikkim		85.00
24.	Tamil Nadu*		138.60
25.	Tripura*		61.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh*		111.49
27.	Uttaranchal*		104.19
28.	West Bengal*		98.71
29.	A & N Islands	Andaman	130.00
		Nicobar	139.00
30.	Chandigarh*		131.79
31.	Dadra & Nagar	Haveli*	99.80
32.	Daman & Diu*		87.00
33.	Delhi*		135.25
34.	Lakshadweep*		71.90
35.	Puducherry		120.00

•Appropriate Governments which have adopted the system of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA).

Creation of NAFUS

1352. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

whether the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector has informed that 77 per cent of the unorganized workers are living in abysmal conditions and under poverty;

whether this Commission also suggested the creation of the National Fund for Unorganized Sector (NAFUS); and

if so, the details of decisions and actions proposed by Government to save such huge percentage of unorganized population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per the Report given by the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS), at the end of 2004-05, about 836 million or 77% of the population were living below Rs. 20/- per day. However, the poverty figures

that have been mentioned stop at 2004-05. Therefore, the report can not be seen as **a** reflection of the policies pursued in the recent past.

(b) and (c) The NCEUS has recommended creation of National Fund for Unorganised Sector. However, this recommendation was not accepted as it was felt that in view of the varied nature of the schemes, the source of funding should by prescribed in the schemes themselves. The Government has introduced the Unorganised Sector Workers' Social Security Bill, 2007 in Rajya Sabha on 10.09.2007.

The 'Rashtriya Swasthya BimaYojana' for BPL families in Unorganised Sector has been launched on 1st October, 2007. The unorganized sector worker and his family (unit of five) will be covered under the scheme. The total sum insured would be Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis. The benefits under the scheme will start accruing from 1st April, 2008.

With a view to providing death and disability cover to rural landless households, the 'Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana' (AABY) has been launched on 2nd October, 2007. Under the scheme, the head of the family or one earning member in the family will be insured. The Central Government will bear 50% of the premium of Rs. 200/- per year per person and the remaining 50% of the premium will be borne by State Government. The benefits under the scheme include Rs. 30,000/- in case of natural death; Rs. 75,000/- in case of death due to accident or total permanent disability due to accident. In case of partial disability due to accident, the insurance cover would be Rs. 37,500/-. The children of beneficiaries of AABY studying in classes 9th to 12th standard are eligible to a scholarship @Rs. 300/- per quarter per child.

Similarly, under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, all persons above the age of 65 years who belong to the household below the poverty line according to the criterion prescribed by Government of India are eligible for old age pension.

Schemes for welfare of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh

1353. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

whether the Director General of Labour Welfare has to formulate State-specific Schemes to help beedi workers to get welfare and economic improvements;

if so, what were the schemes implemented by the Director General of Labour Welfare for the benefit of beedi workers in Nizamabad, Guntur and West Godawari Districts in Andhra Pradesh.

the funds spent in above districts in 2006-07 for beedi workers;

the break-up of such expenditures; and

the proposals for 2007-08 for these 3 districts to enhance welfare for beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Welfare schemes formulated for beedi workers under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, are also applicable to the districts of Guntur, West Godawari and Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh. No State-specific schemes are formulated. Details of ongoing welfare schemes implemented by the Labour Welfare Organisation are provided in enclosed Statement-I *(See* below).